

cent estimate of sin? Could anything be more dreadful than the bite of a venomous serpent, or more loathsome than the scab of leprosy? Is sin a thing to play with, to fondle, to make light of, to jest about?

In the next place let us note the divine remedy. A serpent of brass, lifted up. The image or likeness of the real serpent, but destitute of venom. So Christ was made in the likeness of sinful flesh, but sinless, holy, harmless, undefiled. He was "lifted up," in that supreme sacrifice which made him the central figure of the universe, in full view of all the ages.

The remedy provided, we are next instructed how to avail of it: "Look." This is a word significant of faith, of trust. The child looks to its parents for support and protection. The sick man looks to the physician for relief. "Look unto me, and be ye saved, all the ends of the earth." Isa. 45: 22. All forms of instruction are employed to inculcate faith. Believe and live.

Look earnestly.

Look immediately.

Testify of your cure; help others to look.

Text:—For ye know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that tho he was rich, yet for our sakes he became poor, that ye thro his poverty might be made rich. II Cor. 8: 9.

Perhaps we are under the illusion that we are already rich "and have need of nothing," not realizing that we are miserable, and poor, and blind and naked. How many thousands are thus deceived, eagerly striving for the wealth which perishes, and despising the true riches of eternal life and glory. Let us see how poor the world's rich are.

They have lost innocence. What is a man worth without character, without virtue? What is the proper valuation of guilt? What is the dollar estimate of damnation?

They have lost immortality. God never intended that we should die. "Death came by sin." Sickness, sorrow, pain, bereavement, all these things we owe to sin. Should we gratefully serve sin, or count her a friend? This friend of yours presents you with a grave.

They have lost happiness. All misery, all wretchedness, all woe, all despair comes from sin. This is as much the testimony of observation as of revelation. The universal love of sin argues a universal insanity. Sane men do not willingly destroy themselves. What blessedness shines in the face of the hardened sinner?

They have lost Paradise. The tragedy of Eden is constantly repeated. Sin evicts us from every safe home, from every pleasant refuge into every wilderness of banishment and want. The sinner sets fire to the house over his head. Sin blights the pleasant garden, and converts the bower of roses into the barren desert. It makes us wanderers and vagabonds in the earth.

They are in debt. We owe for every transgression. The debt constantly increases, and we have nothing to pay. Pile up that

debt, thou fool, and one day thou wilt pray the mountains to fall on you.

They are in bondage. He that commits sin is the servant of sin. How vain the boast of the sinner that he is a free man. He is Satan's nigger, and no mistake.

This is the true inventory of the world's rich man, that object of universal envy. Men look at his dashing equipages, his luxurious mansions, his elegant attire, his numerous servants, his numberless dollars, and sigh, and struggle, and scheme and sweat to be like him.

(To be continued.)

EXTRACTS FROM THE WORD OF GOD, ETC.

PAUL'S COMMISSION TO THE GENTILES

And I said, who art thou Lord? And he said, I am Jesus whom thou persecutest. But rise and stand upon thy feet; for I have appeared unto thee for this purpose, to make thee a minister and a witness both of these things which thou hast seen, and of those things in the which I will appear unto thee; delivering thee from the people and from the Gentiles unto whom now I send thee to open their eyes and to turn them from darkness to light and from the power of Satan unto God that they may receive forgiveness of sins, and inheritance among them which are sanctified by faith that is in me. Acts 26: 15-18.

PAUL'S TESTIMONY CONCERNING CHRIST JESUS AND HIMSELF

This is a faithful saying, and worthy of all acceptation that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners; of whom I am chief. I Tim. 1: 15.

PAUL'S ATTITUDE TOWARD THE GOSPEL

I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth. Rom. 1: 16. Yea, woe is unto me if I preach not the gospel. I Cor. 9: 16.

PAUL'S MANNER OF PREACHING

And I, brethren, when I came to you, came not with excellency of speech or of wisdom, declaring unto you the testimony of God. For I determined not to know any thing among you, save Jesus Christ and him crucified. And I was with you in weakness, and in fear, and in much trembling. And my speech and my preaching was not with enticing words of man's wisdom, but in demonstration of the spirit and of power: that your faith should not stand in the wisdom of men, but in the power of God. I Cor. 2: 1-5.

WHAT PAUL PREACHED

Moreover, brethren, I declare unto you the gospel which I preached unto you, which also ye have received, and wherein ye stand, by which also ye are saved, if ye keep in memory what I preached unto you, unless ye have believed in vain. For I delivered unto you first of all that which I also received, how that Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures; and that he was buried, and that he rose again the third day according to the scriptures. I Cor. 15: 1-4.

NOTICE HOW HE PRESSES THE TRUTH OF THE GOSPEL TO THE HEART OF THE BELIEVER IN THE FOLLOWING WORDS

The word is nigh thee, even in thy mouth, and in thy heart: that is, the word of faith, which we preach; that if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved. Rom. 10: 8, 9. "Bless the Lord, O my soul: and all that is within me bless his holy name."

May the God of love and mercy grant us grace to give a testimony at the close of life such as Paul did when he said, I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith: henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, shall give me at that day: and not to me only, but unto all them that love his appearing. II Tim. 4: 6, 8. "The half is not yet told." When Christ, who is our life shall appear, then shall ye also appear with him in glory. Col. 3: 4. "In his presence is fulness of joy." "Even so, come Lord Jesus."

S. KIEHL.

Dayton, O.

The Mission Field

WASHINGTON CITY MISSION

Since I was not permitted to attend the late Conference at Winona and represent the needs and condition of the mission in this city, and since there were no definite steps taken, nor expressions given at the Conference toward the substantial uplifting of the work in the way of securing a church property, I feel impressed to give a plain talk concerning the matter as I wish to clear my skirts of all blame and censure.

I had written Brother Cassel previously and requested him to represent the matter before the Conference in case of my absence as he was well acquainted with the real conditions here, etc. Since then Brother Cassel has written me saying, "I presented the question of the Washington church building, but there was no response, neither is there any money pledges for missions, so we shall have to depend on our faith in God to support the work during the year." Now I'm not going to scold nor complain, nor censure, nor beg, no, not at all; God forbid, but really when I read Brother Cassel's words, *no response*, I felt badly to say the least and my very soul seemed to wilt within me. For the moment I was almost discouraged, but then I knew that would please the devil too well, so my spirit revived. Yes, I must confess I was really disappointed for it did seem to me that it would have been real nice to have made a few little responsive speeches anyhow—you know they wouldn't have cost anyone very much, just enough to show which side you were on. You remember the story of the preacher who borrowed fifty cents of a brother just before entering the pulpit, saying that he could always